I oppose media concentration!

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, the BiennialReview of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. In promoting its supposed goals of fair competition, diversity and local voice in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of the huge, dominant companies and players in the broadcast industry.

I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate, or even attempt to demonstrate, the negative effects that media deregulation and consolidation have had on the diversity of our media. While there may indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented has been severely limited. To say nothing of the quality which has evolved to a plethora of yelling and ranting and just plain trash.

The right to conduct an informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was renewed in the marketplace of diverse ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge and consolidate further, our ability to have an open, informed discussion from a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised.

I realize that is the mission of the Bush administration. You should be aware that there are plenty of Americans out here who are fooled by the manipulation of the press by the Bush administration. What you are trying to do is make it even easier to manipulate what's left of the press.

Sincerely,

Mary Kilgore Portland, Oregon